



May 6, 2005 – UPDATED

CORRECTION: Judge Griffin is nominated for one of four vacancies on the 6th Circuit, which covers Michigan, Ohio, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

[Profile of a Filibustered Nominee: Judge Richard Griffin](#)

Noteworthy

Fox News Channel, 5/5/2005 6:39:50 PM

BRIT HUME: Bob Dole said he fully supports the attempts justified and on solid ground. Dole says the so-called nuclear option would reestablish G.O.P. power to set the Senate's agenda.

FORMER SENATOR BOB DOLE: I think the Democrats are going to have to accept the fact that we are the majority power and we are supposed to lead the Senate and not follow the minority.

Profile of a Filibustered Nominee: Judge Richard Griffin

*Nominee to U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
Nominated June 26, 2002*

Days Without a Simple Up-or-Down Vote: 1045 Days . . . and counting

Judge Richard Griffin has served on the Michigan Court of Appeals since 1989.

The American Bar Association has rated Judge Griffin "Well-Qualified" to serve on the Sixth Circuit.

Judge Griffin has served the bench and bar in a number of voluntary capacities. He is a former member of the federal judicial selection committee for the Western District of Michigan, and he currently serves as Chairman of the Quality Review Committee for the Michigan Court of Appeals.

Before joining the bench, Judge Griffin practiced law as a partner with the firm of Read & Griffin, and before that with the firm of Coulter, Cunningham, Davison & Read.

In private practice, Judge Griffin represented clients in matters, including automobile negligence, employment law, civil rights, products liability, breach of contract, and probate disputes.

Judge Griffin has been an active member of his community. Among other civic endeavors, he has served as Chief Judge of the YMCA Youth-in-Government Mock Trial program and President of the Grand Traverse Zoological Society.

Judge Griffin received his **undergraduate B.A. degree magna cum laude from the Western Michigan University Honors College in 1973, and his J.D. in 1971, from the University of Michigan.**

STATEMENTS BY SELECT SUPPORTERS OF JUDGE GRIFFIN

Hon. Gerald R. Ford, 38th President of the United States

"I write to strongly support the nomination of Richard Allen Griffin to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. He is a highly qualified nominee by President Bush for this important federal judicial post. His approval by the Senate will alleviate the current judicial emergency in the 6th Circuit.

"I can say with conviction that Judge Griffin is a person of highest quality character. As the record shows, he has been a very excellent Judge with unquestioned integrity."

Excerpt from letter to Senator Patrick Leahy, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee, August 13, 2002, and to Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow of Michigan.

Maura D. Corrigan, Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court

"I have known Judge Griffin since 1992, when I first joined the Michigan Court of Appeals. I was fortunate to hear cases on panels with Judge Griffin on many occasions during my seven years as a Court of Appeals judge. Judge Griffin is intellectually gifted. He is a spirited questioner who 'cuts to the chase.' He is consistently well-prepared for oral argument and offers incisive views on the assigned cases to his colleagues. He is current in all his own writing assignments and promptly circulates his votes on his colleagues' opinions. He acquired excellent work habits from private practice that he applies to the business of appellate judging. Judge Griffin brings a depth of practical experience and a grasp of real life problems to the decision of cases. His thinking assists his colleagues in their deliberations. Richard Allen Griffin is a man of integrity and probity who is fully capable of discharging the duty of protecting our Constitution and

laws. He is deserving of the public trust as he has already proven himself worthy of that trust during his years of service to the State of Michigan. I have every confidence that he will serve our country with honor and distinction."

Excerpt from letter to Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow of Michigan, July 5, 2002.

Hon. Roman S. Gribbs, Former Mayor City of Detroit and Retired Judge, Michigan Court of Appeals

"I have known Judge Griffin for many years and have worked with him as a colleague on the Michigan Court of Appeals for 14 years.

"Working together on hundreds of opinions has given me the opportunity to observe and know Rick very well. He is in many respects a 'judge's judge': integrity personified, intelligent, hardworking, fair, sensitive with level temperament and good judgment plus the uncanny ability to decide and write in a clear and understandable manner that resolves complex and obscure issues. He is a dedicated public servant.

"It has been a pleasure and honor to work with Judge Griffin these many years. I know he will serve with honor and distinction as a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals."

Excerpt from letter to Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow of Michigan, August 16, 2002.

William C. Whitbeck, Chief Judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals

"Judge Griffin has served with great distinction on the Michigan Court of Appeals for fourteen years. He is a decisive scholarly judge with an instinct for the core issues and with a flair for authoring crisp understandable opinions. He has written over 280 published opinions, has written hundreds of unpublished opinions, and has decided thousands of cases. His integrity has been above reproach; indeed, I am unaware of any circumstance in which anyone has called Judge Griffin's integrity into question. Certainly, he is highly qualified by education, by background, by practical experience, by work ethic, and by temperament to serve on the Sixth Circuit. In particular, I should emphasize that Judge Griffin works hard, and successfully, at a job of being a judge. Thus, not only does he prepare for and decide his cases and circulate his opinions promptly, he has served on several of this Court's operating committees and has made important contributions to this Court's continued standing as one of the premier intermediate appellate courts in the country.

"Judge Griffin is a good man and a good judge. Considered on the merits, there is no question in my mind that he is fully qualified to serve on the Sixth Circuit; the operative

word here is 'serve' as that is precisely what Judge Griffin will do, serve the people and the public interest to the full extent of his considerable abilities."

Excerpt from letter to Senators Carl Levin and Debbie Stabenow of Michigan, July 19, 2002.

###